



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 08049.0008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )

Oscar Lee AVANT et al. )

Application No.: 09/652,709 )

Filed: August 31, 2000 )

For: APPARATUS AND METHODS )  
FOR IDENTIFYING AND )  
PROCESSING MAIL USING AN )  
IDENTIFICATION CODE )

Group Art Unit: 3653

Examiner: Daniel K. SCHLAK

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**GROUP 3600**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

**Election of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §121**

In the Office Action dated September 8, 2003, the Examiner required election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Claims 1-8, 77-82, and 91-96 (Group I), Claims 105-122 (Group II), Claims 123-132 (Group III), Claims 133-148 (Group IV), Claims 149-158 (Group V), Claims 9-18, 83-90, 97-104 (Group VI), Claims 19-30 and 45-59 (Group VII), and Claims 31-44 and 60-76 (Group VIII). In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect without traverse to prosecute Group I, Claims 1-8, 77-82, and 91-96.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 7, 2003

By: 

D. Kent Stier  
Reg. No. 50,640  
(404) 653-6559

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
[www.finnegan.com](http://www.finnegan.com)